

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 H-02 /050 W

----- 032625

R 241757Z APR 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO USCINCEUR

SECSTATE WASHDC 1392

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

USNMR SHAPE

JCS WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR NATO

SUBJECT: US SPECIAL PROGRAM SLICES XXVI-XXX

REFS: A. USNATO 0952

B. DPC/D(74)35, PARA V

C. STATE 005452/1

BEGIN SUMMARY. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP (WG27) IS NEARING AGREEMENT ON BASIC US SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR SLICES XXVI-XXX TO BE RECOMMENDED TO PARENT COMMITTEE. MISSION AND CINCEUR STAFFS HAVE ACHIEVED ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE ON PROVISIONAL MIX OF PROJECTS AND OBTAINED ALLIES' AGREEMENT TH AT PROJECT LIST REMAIN OPEN-ENDED. MISSION WILL PRESS FOR QUICK AGREEMENT ON INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE REPORT TO DPC MINISTERS 22 MAY 75. END SUMMARY.

1. IN THEIR MEETING OF 10 DEC 75 (REF B), DPC MINISTERS AGREED TO CEILING AND COST SHARING FOR NEXT FIVE-YEAR NATO INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PROGRAM (SLICES XXVI-///) AND INSTRUCTED DPC PERMREPS TO REVIEW THE US SPECIAL PROGRAM QUOTE ON A PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS WITH A VIEW TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE CONTENTS...UNQUOTE. THE RESPONSIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP (WG 27) IS NEAR-

ING AGREEMENT ON A BASIC US SPECIAL PROGRAM AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO REPORT SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THIS TASK TO DPC MINSITERS ON 22 MAY 1975.

2. IN PRESENTING US CASE FOR CANDIDATE PROJECTS, MISSION HAS OBSERVED POLICY WHICH SECDEF LAID DOWN IN HIS LETTER OF 30 DEC 74 TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES (REF C), I.E., THAT US SPECIAL PROGRAM MAY ONLY INCLUDE PROJECTS WHICH ARE INELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING AND WHICH US WOULD HAVE FUNDED UNILATERALLY. US HAS ALSO ACCEPTED SOME REASONABLE GROUND RULES IMPOSED BY POLITICAL CONSTRAINTS

IN SOME COUNTRIES AND GENERALLY AIMED AT ENHANCING VALUE OF THESE SPECIAL PROJECTS TO NORMAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND THUS TO MAJOR NATO COMMAND (MNC) PLANNING. HOWEVER, MISSION AND CINCEUR REPS HAVE ACTIVELY RESISTED ATTEMPTS OF SOME ALLIES TO IMPOSE GROUND RULES THAT ARE TOO NARROW, PARTICULARLY IN THOSE ARMY AND NAVY CASES WHERE PROJECTS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE NORMALLY ELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE. WE HAVE STRESSED THE BASIC CRITERIA FOR PROJECT INCLUSION, I.E., THAT THEY BE IN SUPPORT OF ASSIGNED AND EARMARKED FORCES AND THAT THEY BE QUOTE OPERATIONAL END QUOTE IN CHARACTER. AT SAME TIME IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT RESPONSIBLE US AUTHORITIES KEEP US LIST UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW IN ORDER TO INSURE CURRENTLY AND TO EXCLUDE (A) ANY PROJECTS WHICH ARE ELIGIBLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING OR (B) PROJECTS FOR WHICH CONGRESS HAS REFUSED AUTHORIZATION FOR SUBSTANTIVE REASONS.

3. MISSION EFFORTS TO BROADEN WG 27 DEFINITION OF GROUND RULES HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT HAMPERED BY UK INSISTENCE THAT US SPECIAL PROJECTS RESEMBLE NORMAL INFRASTRUCTURE AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE, WHICH IN TURN REFLECTS RESIDUAL ATTITUDE OF UK MOD THAT PROJECTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN NORMALLY ELIGIBLE BUT OF INSUFFICIENT PRIORITY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM. THERE HAS BEEN SOME INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT THE UK POSITION IS SOFTENING AND THE UK REP ON WG 27 HAS STATED HE IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROJECTS QUOTE INCLUDING THOSE FOR WHICH NO FORMAL INFRASTRUCTURE CATEGORIES EXISTED- WHICH CATERED FOR THE PARTICULAR PROBLEM OF THE US FORCES IN EUROPE, THEIR REMOTENESS FROM A HOME BASE, AND WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DIRECTLY ENHANCED THE WARTIME CAPABILITIES OF THOSE FORCES END QUOTE. THIS POSITION, READILY ACCEPTED BY THE WG, WILL HELP US MATERIALLY IN CONTINUATION OF EFFORTS TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF PRIORITY ITEMS NOT NOW IN CATEGORY 1.

4. WG 27 HAS COMPLETED PROJECT-BY-PROJECT REVIEW OF LIST RECOMMENDED BY NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF IN THEIR ANALYSIS OF 11 FEB 75 (REF A) AND IS ABOUT READY TO MAKE ITS REPORT TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE. THIS PROVISIONAL LIST AS NOW COMPILED IS DIVIDED INTO THREE CATEGORIES: (1) THOSE PROJECTS HAVING UNANIMOUS WG ENDORSEMENT; (2) THOSE STILL OPEN FOR CONSIDERATION; AND (3) THOSE WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED OR WHICH

POSE SPECIAL POLICY ISSUES. CATEGORY 1 TOTALS IAU 41.3 MILLION;
CATEGORY 2 IAU 7.9 MILLION; AND CATEGORY 3 IAU 4.9 MILLION. THE
US IS FREE TO RE-PROPOSE PROJECTS IN CATEGORIES 2 AND 3 OR TO PROPOSE
OTHER DESIRABLE PROJECTS WHICH HAVE NOT APPEARED IN PREVIOUS LISTS.
WHEN THE WG DECISION IS FIRM, MISSION WILL PROVIDE ADDRESSEES WITH
MORE COMPLETE ANALYSIS BY CATEGORY AND SERVICE COMPONENT. IN
MEANTIME, US REP WILL PRESS FOR QUICK AGREEMENT ON INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE REPORT TO DPC MINISTERS IN THEIR MAY MEETING STATING
THAT TERMS OF DPC/D(74)35 HAVE BEEN MET.

5. MISSION WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO GAIN ALLIES' ACCEPTANCE
OF PROJECTS TO WHICH CINCEUR AND COMPONENT COMMANDERS HAVE ASSIGNED
HIGH PRIORITY AND WHICH ARE NOT NOW INCLUDED IN CATEGORY 1. FOR
THE MOMENT MISSION PREFERS TO DEFER ACTION ON PROJECTS WITH WHICH
THE WG HAS HAD DIFFICULTY OR WHICH DEPART FROM AGREED GROUND RULES.
INSISTENCE AT THIS POINT ON CONTROVERSIAL PROJECTS OR ON EXCEPTIONS
TO THE GROUND RULES WILL ONLY DELAY AGREEMENT ON COST SHARING FOR
SLICES XXVI-XXX AND COULD JEOPARDIZE IT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO002282
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197504101/abbrzjou.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.USNATO 0952 B. DPC/D(74)35, PARA V C. STATE 005452/1
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US SPECIAL PROGRAM SLICES XXVI-XXX
TAGS: MARR NATO
To: USCINCEUR
STATE
SECDEF INFO CINCUSAREUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAFE
USNMR SHAPE

JCS

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006